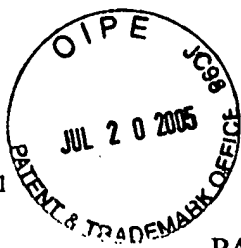


USPTO
JFW



Appln. No. 10/759,211

P24660.A08 (1040/US)

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	:	Jacques QUELLAIS et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit 3618
Appln. No.	:	10/759,211)	
)	Examiner J. Allen Shriver
Docket No.	:	P24660)	
)	Confirmation No. 8075
Customer No.	:	7055)	
)	
Filed	:	January 20, 2004)	
)	
Title	:	DEVICE FOR BINDING A BOOT)	
		TO A SPORTS APPARATUS)	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop *Issue Fee*
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This is in response to the Reasons for Allowance attached to the Notice of Allowability (form PTOL-37), mailed June 22, 2005.

Although Applicants do not herewith express disagreement with the Examiner in her indication of reasons for the allowance of the claims of the instant application, Applicants note that the allowed claims recite a plurality of features, and the patentability of the allowed claims should be considered to be based upon the totality of the features recited therein, *i.e.*, the

invention "considered as a whole", as defining over the prior art. *Panduit Corp. v. Dennison Mfg. Co.*, 810 F.2d 1561, 1 USPQ2d 1593 (Fed. Cir. 1987). For example, Applicants submit that the reasons cited in the attachment to the Notice of Allowability do not preclude the existence of additional reasons that can be cited to support the patentability of the claims, i.e., the independent claims as well as the various dependent claims.

Any comment or question concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacques QUELLAIS et al.et al.



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July 20, 2005
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